

Application No. 09/905,017
Reply/Amendment dated October 23, 2003
Reply to Office Action dated August 27, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A medical device (10) comprising a tube (11), wherein the tube (11) comprises:
 - a coil (14) in a stressed, radially expanded condition;
 - a braid (16) extending over at least part of the coil (14); and
 - a polymeric layer (18) positioned over and contacting at least the coil (14);
 - the polymeric layer (18) maintaining the coil (14) in its stressed, radially expanded condition.
2. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 1, wherein the polymeric layer (18) maintains the coil (14) in its stressed, radially expanded condition by adhesion to the coil (14).
3. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 1, further comprising an inner liner (20) beneath and in contact with at least part of the coil (14).
4. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the coil (14) and the braid (16) comprises a metal.
5. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 1, wherein the braid (16) comprises a plurality of crossed wires (22).

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6. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 5, wherein the wires (22) are circular in cross-section.
7. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 1, wherein the coil (14) comprises flat wire.
8. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 1, wherein the polymeric layer (18) comprises at least one of nylon, polyurethane and PTFE.
9. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 8, wherein the polymeric layer (18) is encased within an additional layer of heat-shrinkable tubing.
10. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 2, wherein the polymeric layer (18) is thermally bonded to the coil (14).
11. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 3, wherein the inner liner (20) comprise PTFE.
12. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 1, wherein the tube (11) has an outer diameter no greater than about 2 mm.
13. Cancelled.

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14. (Previously presented) The medical device (10) according to claim 1, wherein the polymeric layer (18) comprises at least two discrete longitudinal segments (28 and 30) of differing durometer.

15. Cancelled.

16. Cancelled.

17. Cancelled.

18. Cancelled.

19. (Previously presented) A medical device (10) comprising a tube (11), wherein the tube (11) comprises:

a metal coil (14) in a stressed, radially expanded condition, the metal coil (14) comprising flat wire;

a metal braid (16) extending over at least part of the coil (14);

a polymeric bonding layer (18) positioned over and contacting at least the coil (14), wherein the polymeric layer (18) is heat-shrinkable tubing comprising at least one of nylon, polyurethane and PTFE; and

an inner liner (20) beneath and in contact with at least part of the coil (14), the liner (20) comprising PTFE;

wherein the polymeric layer (18) maintains the coil (14) in its stressed, radially expanded condition by adhesion to the coil (14) by thermal bonding to it; and

wherein the tube (11) has an outer diameter no greater than about 1 mm.

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20. (Previously presented) The improvement in a medical device (10) including a tube (11), characterized in that the tube (11) comprises:

a coil (14) in a stressed, radially expanded condition;

a braid (16) extending over at least part of the coil (14); and

a polymeric layer (18) positioned over and contacting at least the coil (14);

wherein the polymeric layer (18) maintains the coil (14) in its stressed, radially expanded condition.

21. (Previously presented) A tube (11) for use with a medical device (10), the tube (11) comprising a coil (14) in a stressed, radially expanded condition; a braid (16) extending over at least part of the coil (14), and polymeric material (18) positioned at least over the coil (14); the polymeric material (18) at least in part maintaining the coil (14) in its stressed, radially expanded condition.